

PATENT # 6
Docket No. 441742000411

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 11, 2001

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5/22/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Russell A. HOUSER et al.

Serial No.: 09/721,158

Filing Date: November 21, 2000

For: POSITIONING SYSTEMS FOR
SUTURELESS ANASTOMOSIS
SYSTEMS (AS AMENDED)

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: 3731

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement and/or Office Action, directed to the related application Serial Number 09/329,503, filed 6/10/1999, and, accordingly, copies are not included herewith. This protocol conforms with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) and M.P.E.P. 609(A)(2). The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
 - ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of * is enclosed.
 - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.
 - ☐ A fee is required. By the submission of Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) (in duplicate), Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees deemed necessary with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **441742000411**.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, an authorization to charge our deposit account, and a Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) are provided herein.

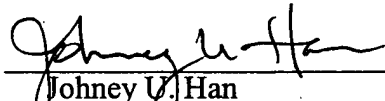
Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is to the best of my knowledge and is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **441742000411**. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: May 11, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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